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***One Tough Tiller***

January 12, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing in support of the settlement in the Microsoft antitrust suit. I would like to see this case concluded as soon as possible. As a small business owner, I am concerned by the fact this case was brought against Microsoft at all. Microsoft has been an innovative, competitive company. Companies, especially those engaged in high-tech endeavors, must remain competitive to remain in business. I do not agree with punishing Microsoft for its ability to remain competitive.

I do, however, believe the case should be settled as rapidly as possible. To achieve this end, Microsoft has made a variety of concessions that go above and beyond the scope of the lawsuit. I do not necessarily agree with the concessions made, as they appear to be overly restrictive. For example, the creation of a technical oversight committee, which will monitor Microsoft's business practices, seems overly intrusive to Microsoft.

Despite my belief that Microsoft is doing more than should be required, I support its decision to make such concessions so this case will settle. I appreciate your review of my comments, and hope to see this case settle as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ted Marquis".

Ted Marquis
President / CEO